

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA-R-137]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Collection Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title of Information Collection: Internal Revenue Service/Social Security Administration/Health Care Financing Administration Data Match and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR Section 411.20-411.206.

Form No.: HCFA-R-137 (OMB# 0938-0565).

Use: The purpose of this collection is to save the Medicare program, money. MSP is essentially the same concept known in the private insurance industry as coordination of benefits, and refers to those situations where Medicare assumes a secondary payer role (private insurance being the primary payer) for covered services provided to a Medicare beneficiary. It is HCFA's responsibility to implement the various Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) provisions.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Federal Government, Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions, Farms, State, and Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 276,251.

Total Annual Responses: 276,251.

Total Annual Hours: 1,051,722.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the

proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 60 days of this notice directly to the HCFA Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards, Attention: Dawn Willingham, Room N2-14-26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: May 26, 1999.

John Parmigiani,

Manager, HCFA Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA-1075-N]

Medicare Program; June 25, 1999 Public Meeting To Discuss the Payment Classification for Respiratory Assist Devices

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a public meeting regarding the appropriate durable medical equipment (DME) fee schedule payment category for respiratory assist devices (RADs) with bi-level pressure capability and with a backup rate feature. The meeting will provide an opportunity for physicians, suppliers, beneficiary advocates, and other interested parties to furnish information and raise issues about the payment classification for RADs. The meeting will address the following topics:

- Characteristics of the equipment.
- Whether the equipment needs frequent and substantial servicing in order to avoid risk to the patient's health.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for June 25, 1999 from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., eastern daylight time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Health Care Financing

Administration headquarters, in the auditorium, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joel Kaiser, (410) 786-4499, or Gloria Knight, (410) 786-4598.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

We are announcing a public meeting to provide an opportunity for physicians, suppliers, beneficiary advocates and other interested parties to furnish information and raise issues regarding the appropriate DME payment category for RADs with bi-level pressure capability and with a backup rate feature. The public meeting provides an open forum for addressing these issues. We anticipate participation by physicians, manufacturers, suppliers, national associations representing manufacturers and suppliers, the press, and other members of the public with an interest in issues relating to Medicare payment for RADs. We intend to discuss the information we have gathered and the general direction that we are moving concerning these topics. The format of the meeting will include an overview on RAD payment and coding topics.

For more detailed information regarding the pending HCFA coding decision on RADs, you may access one of the following Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier websites for the June bulletin:

REGION A: www.medicare-link.com

REGION B: www.astar-federal.com

REGION C: www.pgba.com

REGION D: www.cignamedicare.com

We will allow short (10-20 minutes) presentations by the public and our staff on these topics. The meeting will conclude with an open dialog during which the public may raise issues related to the topics discussed.

Individuals interested in making a presentation at the meeting must contact Joel Kaiser at (410) 786-4499 or via e-mail at JKaiser@hcfa.gov or Gloria Knight at (410) 786-4598 or via e-mail at GKnight@hcfa.gov no later than June 18, 1999. Individuals must identify which of the two topics they want to discuss during their presentation. Only a limited number of individuals will be able to make presentations because of time constraints. In an effort to assure that all viewpoints are represented, we will notify participants who are selected to make a presentation. We will not assign presentation times until after June 18, 1999.

While the meeting is open to the public, attendance is limited to space available. Individuals must register in advance as described below.